REMARKS

Prior to examination of the above-identified application on the merits, amendment of claims 1, 9, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 36, 37, 38, 43 and 45 is respectfully requested. No new claims have been added. Therefore, claims 1-49 remain pending in the present continuation application.

It is not believed that any additional fees are due with respect to this submission. However, if any additional fees are required in connection with the filing of this paper, permission is given to charge account number 18-0013 in the name of Rader, Fishman and Grauer, PLLC.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 22, 2004

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